

wherein said reflecting surfaces, said emitter, and said detector are constructed and arranged such that electromagnetic radiation emitted from said emitter is reflected off of each reflector at least once and strikes the electromagnetic radiation detecting element, said reflected electromagnetic radiation defining a detection region through which objects to be detected traverse.

76. (New) A vending machine according to claim 75, wherein said electromagnetic radiation undergoes a plurality of reflections off of each reflecting surface.

77. (New) A vending machine according to claim 75, wherein the emitter is a laser.

78. (New) An optical sensor according to claim 75, wherein said two reflecting surfaces are differently angled interior portions of an elliptically shaped reflector.

REMARKS

Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1-78 will be pending in the application, claims 58-78 having been added.

Applicants respectfully submit that the new claims 58-78 added hereinabove are fully supported by the original disclosure, and that entry thereof would not introduce new matter into the application.

In particular, new claim 58 is based upon claim 1, and is further supported in the specification at page 11, line 15 – page 17, line 14 and, along with claims 59-61, at page 19, line 10 – page 21, line 13, and by Figs. 7 and 8. New claims 62-66 are supported in the

specification at page 19, line 10 – page 21, line 13, and by Figs. 7 and 8. New claim 68 is based upon claim 34, and is further supported, along with claims 69-71, in the specification at page 19, line 10 – page 21, line 13, and by Figs. 7 and 8. New claims 72-74 are based upon claims 35-37, and are further supported in the specification at page 22, line 15-21. New claim 75 is based upon claim 26, and is further supported, along with claims 76-78, in the specification at page specification at page 19, line 10 – page 21, line 13, and by Figs. 7 and 8. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request approval and entry of new claims 58-75.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the claims, as presented above, are submitted to be in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any questions or concerns regarding this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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